

***Provincial Advisory Committee
of Older Persons***

**Report to Saskatchewan's
Minister Responsible for Seniors
2004-05**

April 2006

ANNUAL REPORT: 2004-05 SASKATCHEWAN PROVINCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF OLDER PERSONS REPORT TO THE MINISTER

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LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

April 2006

The Honourable Graham Addley
Minister Responsible for Seniors
Legislative Building
REGINA SK S4S 0B3

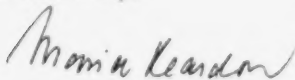
Dear Minister Addley:

The Provincial Advisory Committee of Older Persons is pleased to present the 2004-05 annual report.

The Provincial Advisory Committee of Older Persons was established in 2000, with a mandate to make recommendations and advise the Minister Responsible for Seniors on important seniors issues. This is aided by the committee's diverse group of committed members, each bringing strength to our purpose.

Mr. Minister, it has been an excellent experience working with everyone on the committee.

Yours truly,



Mrs. Maria Reardon
Chairperson
Provincial Advisory Committee of Older Persons

INTRODUCTION

This is the fifth annual report of the Provincial Advisory Committee of Older Persons since its beginning in 2000. The following report describes the activities and composition of the committee for 2004-05.

CREATING LINKAGES

The Provincial Advisory Committee of Older Persons continues to remain committed to examining issues related to older persons in Saskatchewan. During the 2004-05 year, the committee had the opportunity to further create linkages and share information as listed below.

Saskatchewan Centennial 2005

Ms Olivia Shumski, chief operating officer, Saskatchewan Centennial 2005 Office, made an informative presentation on Saskatchewan's centennial celebrations, grants and initiatives, and available planning and resources.

Gerontology Institute

Members of the Provincial Advisory Committee of Older Persons had the opportunity to attend the Seniors' Education Centre's 4th Annual Gerontology Institute. The Gerontology Institute was a mix of plenary sessions and smaller interactive workshops delivered by experts working in the area of gerontology. Participants spent the day learning about issues related to caring for older adults, and exploring ways they could work together caring for Saskatchewan seniors and their caregivers.

Abuse of Older Persons

Mr. Ron Kruzeniski, Q.C., Public Guardian and Trustee, Saskatchewan Justice, made a presentation on elder abuse, particularly focusing on financial abuse.

Informational Tours

In conjunction with regular meetings of the Provincial Advisory Committee of Older Persons, members toured the following facilities and centres:

- Seniors' Education Centre, University of Regina (Regina);
- First Nations University of Canada (Regina); and
- Legislative Building (Regina).

ACTIVITIES IN 2004-05

Throughout 2004-05, the Provincial Advisory Committee of Older Persons undertook work on a number of important issues related to older persons in Saskatchewan.

A Strategy for Alzheimer Disease and Related Dementias in Saskatchewan

The Provincial Advisory Committee of Older Persons, in conjunction with the Alzheimer Society Of Saskatchewan, completed and presented *A Strategy for Alzheimer Disease and Related Dementias in Saskatchewan* to the Minister of Health and Minister Responsible for Seniors. The strategy provides a guide to assure the best possible care and support for those individuals affected by Alzheimer Disease and related dementias, their families, their caregiver, and their communities.

The strategy embraces a person-centred philosophy and identifies seven goals (each identifying a number of proposed actions):

- public awareness and education;
- diagnosis and treatment;
- support for individuals and caregivers;
- supportive environments;
- programs and services;
- education and training; and
- research.

Seniors' Week 2004

As recommended in the *Provincial Policy Framework and Action Plan for Older Persons*, the committee continued to follow through with the commitment to recognizing contributions of older persons. A newly created poster, pamphlet and letterhead, as well as a list of activities that could be considered, were distributed regarding Seniors' Week.

Housing Options for Saskatchewan Seniors

The Provincial Advisory Committee of Older Persons, in collaboration with Saskatchewan Health and the Saskatchewan Housing Corporation (an agency of Saskatchewan Community Resources and Employment) initiated work toward the development of a document outlining the different public and private housing options available to Saskatchewan seniors.

PRIORITY ISSUES FOR 2005-06 (WORKPLAN)

Throughout 2004-05, the Provincial Advisory Committee of Older Persons deliberated on a number of important issues related to older persons in Saskatchewan. Many of these activities were identified as priorities in last year's annual report, while others emerged as the committee performed its role.

Housing Options for Saskatchewan Seniors

In conjunction with Saskatchewan Health and the Saskatchewan Housing Corporation, the Committee will continue to develop a *Housing Options for Saskatchewan Seniors*, with a timeline for completion of Winter 2006.

Alzheimer Strategy for Saskatchewan

With the completion of *A Strategy for Alzheimer Disease and Related Dementias in Saskatchewan*, the focus is now on prioritizing actions and addressing actions that were directed to the committee for follow-up.

The Provincial Advisory Committee of Older Persons will continue to seek to identify and prioritize any new critical challenges facing Saskatchewan seniors.

APPENDIX A COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP FOR 2004-05
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Wes Ashwin

Mr. Ashwin was the chairperson of the Provincial Advisory Committee, International Year of Older Persons (1999), and was also the Saskatchewan representative on the Canada Coordinating Committee – International Year of Older Persons (1999). He is an ordained United Church minister and a retired employee of the Government of Saskatchewan.

Marg Beament

Mrs. Beament has been involved with the development of Northern Saskatchewan since 1973. She has worked with such organizations as Northern Native Women, Northern Municipal Council, NorSask Native Outreach, and the Lac La Ronge Indian Band Health Services as a community health representative and home care coordinator.

Lois Borden

Ms Borden is a retired civil servant with a special interest in seniors issues. She served in senior management positions in Saskatchewan Health and Alberta Health, and directed the development of home care programs in both provinces.

Before working for government, Lois was the assistant director of the Senior Citizens' Provincial Council in Saskatchewan. During that time, she worked with leaders of two provincial seniors organizations to achieve their amalgamation, and chaired the founding conference of the Saskatchewan Seniors Association Inc.

Helen "Bubs" Coleman

Mrs. Coleman was appointed as a member of the National Advisory Council on Aging in May 1999. She currently volunteers for the Saskatoon Council on Aging and Wanuskewin Heritage Park. She retired in 1994 as the communications coordinator for the Mendel Art Gallery in Saskatoon.

Patricia Hutchison

Dr. Hutchison is a member of the Seniors' Education Centre/Seniors' University Group where she attends classes and has served on the board and executive. Presently she serves on the Fifty Plus Advisory Committee of the Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region Population and Public Health Services. During her professional career, she practised for a time as a pediatrician. She joined the Regina Health Department in 1962 and from 1983 until retirement in 1992, she was medical health officer for Regina. She was a coroner for the Government of Saskatchewan in the mid-1990s.

Denis Jean

Mr. Jean has been involved with the Fédération des Aînés Fransaskois and has considerable experience and knowledge on issues related to francophone seniors. Mr. Jean is a retired farmer and hardware manager from the Debden area. He is currently the vice-president of the local seniors club.

William Klassen

Dr. Klassen is a retired physician with a special interest in gerontology and geriatrics. He is involved with the Seniors' University Group Inc. at the Seniors' Education Centre in Regina, the Saskatchewan Gerontology Association and the Health and Aging Department at the University of Regina.

During his professional career, he practiced 23 years as a family physician. After further training in geriatrics, he assumed a clinical teaching position in the College of Medicine's family medicine internship program at the Plains Health Centre in Regina. In addition to his practice and teaching duties, he was involved in the founding of the Saskatchewan Alzheimer and Related Dementia Society, the further development of the long-term care and active rehabilitation programs at Wascana Hospital, the Provincial Committee on the Safe Use of Drugs, the Provincial Geriatric Services Review Committee (1980), the Geriatrics Committee of the College of Family Practice of Canada, and the Santa Maria board of managers.

Dennis Lafreniere

Mr. Lafreniere is experienced in the fields of health administration, and was previously involved with a number of community organizations, including the Southwest Canadian Cancer Society and Swift Current Health District. Mr. Lafreniere was a civil servant with the Government of Saskatchewan, Department of Agriculture. He is currently the chair of the Cypress Regional Health Authority Board and board member of the Saskatchewan Association of Health Organizations.

Rita Ledingham

Rita Ledingham is a retired registered nurse, who spent most of her career teaching in the nursing and home care/ special care aide programs at the Saskatoon campus of Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology.

Her most recent responsibilities include chair of the discipline committee, Saskatchewan Registered Nurses Association; member of the citizens advisory committee of the Saskatoon Board of Education; publication chair of the Saskatoon Council on Aging; and member of the Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism.

**Edward Leson
(Chairperson)**

A retired teacher and past member of the Prince Albert Senior Citizens' Advisory Committee, Mr. Leson has also served as a councillor with the Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation and as president of the Prince Albert Teachers' Association.

Frank J. Mirasty

Mr. Mirasty is a former chief of the Flying Dust First Nation, a position he held for eight years. Besides his involvement with the Meadow Lake Tribal Council in drafting the Education Act and as the director of Self-Government, Mr. Mirasty is also known as a translator—he reads and writes in both Cree and English. He is also currently working with the Justice Committee in Alternative Justice and the Police Management Board.

**Maria Reardon
(Vice-Chairperson)**

Mrs. Reardon is the retired vice-president of the Canadian College of Health Service Executives. She is currently an education consultant with the Canadian Healthcare Association and supervises nine correspondence students in the Long Term Care Senior Management Course.

Mrs. Reardon is the past president of the Board of the Seniors' University Group, University of Regina, and currently serves on the Research and Publicity Committees. She also serves on the board of the MacKenzie Infant Care Centre and is a member of the Canadian Federation of University Women and the Regina Symphony Women's Association. She is an associate member of the Royal United Services Institute. She is presently involved in the promotion of the Canadian Health Network through the auspices of CATALIST, a third age learning organization.

David Seright

Mr. Seright is a long-time Métis resident of northern Saskatchewan. He is a businessman in Buffalo Narrows, having owned and operated the Serights Service Inc. for more than 14 years. Prior to that, he held positions throughout government and private industry. He is currently the manager of J. Waite Fisheries Inc. Mr. Seright is the vice-chair of the Keewatin Yatthé Regional Health Authority Board.

APPENDIX B
SUMMARY OF EXPENDITURES

Provincial Advisory Committee of Older Persons	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
Honorarium	\$ 3,875	\$ 3,875	\$ 4,189	\$ 4,800	\$ 3,430
Other Costs (e.g., travel/ sustenance/meetings)	5,968	7,937	9,913	10,698	7,184
Total	\$ 9,843	\$11,812	\$14,102	\$15,498	\$10,614

